

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-24 and 26-30 are presently active in this case. The present Amendment cancels Claim 31.

Claim 31 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Fujino (JP 10-198129) in view of Kisu (JP 3-240076). Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-24 and 26-30 were allowed.

In response to the rejection of Claim 31, Applicants herewith cancel Claim 31. The present Amendment is submitted in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116, which after Final Rejection permits entry of amendments canceling rejected claims or complying with requirements of form set forth in a previous Office Action. As the present Amendment merely cancels rejected Claim 31 as suggested in the previous Office Action, it is respectfully requested that the present Amendment be entered.

Consequently, in view of the present Amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-24 and 26-30 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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